# Breakout Group #3
# Data Distribution and Access

# Recommendations for Workshop Report

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## On data management system design

- Further level of design requires more explicit enumeration of requirements!
- The NACP system should be decentralized, to the extent practicable
- NACP web portal that contains an index of metadata, data, and services
- Enable subscription services to notify investigators when data, products, and/or services are available
- Establish definitions and standards for data QA/QC, uncertainties, error analyses
- Services to facilitate data search and query should range from data catalogue entries (structured database) to free text metadata search (Google-type search)
- Incorporate open source collaboration principles in system development efforts (portal design, data filters, format conversion, web mapping services, cross-platform compatibility)

# Identify near-term activities (pilot/prototype) as well as long term activities

Short Term

- Identify and prioritize data sets of greatest common need, with priority given to currently funded NACP projects
  - Especially with regard to issues of restricted access (FIA, NRCS)
  - Commercial remotely sensed data
- Identify and prioritize data processing services of greatest common need, i.e. obstacles to the ready use of data/products, with priority given to currently funded NACP projects
- Develop an NACP web portal
- Communicate data management policy to NACP-funded investigators
- Develop a NACP Data Policy
  - Define criteria for making NACP data accessible to NACP investigators
  - Define criteria for making NACP data publicly accessible

## Long Term

- Establish a Data Management Working Group, comprised science data users and data system developers, that reports to the Science Steering Group

- Formulate a policy and strategy for long term archive of data and products developed by NACP project activities

## Resources required

- At least 1 FTE for design and development of a NACP web portal
- At least 1 FTE for design and development of a NACP metadata editor
- Leverage existing capabilities and resources (i.e. existing open source software tools)
- NACP PIs must plan to allocate resources to support the NACP Data Management System (i.e. document data collection methods, prepare metadata, QA/QC information, quantified measures of uncertainty)

## Interfaces between agencies and data centers

- Establish program level MOUs where necessary and feasible
- Leverage services from agency data centers to the greatest extent possible

## Elements of the NACP data policy

- Adherence to existing national/international data policies
- Minimize, to the extent possible, the exclusive period of data use
- Encourage early and open access to data by NACP investigators
- Public access to NACP data once data have achieved a scientifically credible level of QA/QC and peer review
- No restrictions on data use or redistribution, with the exceptions to constraints imposed by non-NACP data contributors (i.e. international, commercial)

## How to exert oversight and management of the NACP Data Management Program

- Define a charter for the Data Management Working Group
- NACP funding agencies should encourage funded PIs to adhere to NACP data management guidelines and policies
- Success of the data management system is largely contingent upon collective adherence to guidelines and recommendations